## United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott Eastern District of California

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## VACAVILLE ARCHITECT INDICTED FOR TAX EVASION

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that a federal grand jury returned a two-count indictment charging THOMAS ALLAN BOUFFARD, 48, of Vacaville, Calif., with attempting to evade or defeat income tax.

This case is the product of an investigation by the Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigation Division.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Samantha Spangler, who is prosecuting the case, the indictment alleges that for tax years 2002 and 2003, BOUFFARD understated his income, resulting in his payment of less income tax than he owed. For tax year 2002, he understated his income by more than \$120,000, resulting in an underpayment of income tax of \$38,388. For tax year 2003, he understated his income by more than \$86,000, resulting in an underpayment of income tax of more than \$25,318.

U.S. Attorney Scott said, "A professional architect should know better than to try to shirk his responsibility to pay his fair share of taxes. Let this prosecution serve as a warning that professionals are not immune from investigation by the IRS and prosecution by this office."

The maximum statutory penalty for tax evasion is five years in prison, a \$250,000 fine, the costs of prosecution, and a three-year term of supervised release. The actual sentence, however, will be determined at the discretion of the court after consideration of the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, which take into account a number of variables and any applicable statutory sentencing factors.

The charges are only allegations and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

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